8/28/76

Mr. Bud Fensterwald
1707 H St., NW,
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Bud,

Another caution.

As you know, when my warnings of April a year ago went unheeded I detached myself even more from all others, certain of the validity of my prediction.

As you also know, my prediction could not have been more precisely accurate if it had been hindsight.

As you should know, boiling the pot hasn t worked. There is no reason to believe it will or ever can. It is wishful thinking at the much-extended best.

While I stay home, stay out of everything, and work a very long day, I can't be entirely unaware because people do consult me by phone. So I know of a current operation and some of what goes into it.

I hear that, having messed up everything with JFK, Lane has now latched onto King and among the ramifications of this he is supposed to be "working" with the Black Caucus. (He is also working with Freed who has attached himself to Abby Mann who is doing a King special for ABC for next April.) One objective is to get the Downing resolution out of the Rules committee. The theory seems to be that even though nothing could possibly happen in this session it would have a good influence on the coming House.

Only the opposite is possible. The total destruction of all this silly "pot-boiling" on which the passage of the Downing resolution would be passed would be more than enough to mean ruin in coming Congresses. If I can do this ad lib, can you imagine what the executive agencies can do with preparation?

On two recent consecutive days I had not less than seven such phone conversations with members of the press in five cities not counting my responses from other such inquiries, where the same reporters served more than one paper. If I'm not saying who fed what to whom some of it is easy to figure and all of it was not new. This in itself is one of the best ways to destroy any reportorial faith. There was, in addition, a call yesterday in which there was what has not been published. That reporter had not been given a context. This is the one I was able to confirm as truthful, meaningful if not misinterpreted, and to which I could and did add. What all the others really represent is not pot-boiling but the courting of disaster.

When you have this long record of never listening to me and never ever telling me that I was wrong, why do I take the time I do not have to write again?

It is not only that there lingers the baseless hope that you may at some point listen to reason. Nor is it only that I am certain you are playing into the government's hand. I am also certain that they have prepared to do a job on the well-publicized idea that you have been a government agent. The record they can produce on this will blow you, if not your mind also. If I wanted this to happen I'd not be writing you. They really can hurt you and they are prepared to. Believe me or not, I do know what I'm talking about.

Sincerely,